

I claim:

- 1           1.     A method, comprising:  
2                 cutting a brake pad backing plate out of a sheet having a  
3                 plurality of discontinuities formed therein.
- 1           2.     A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the step of cutting a  
2                 brake pad backing plate out of a sheet comprises cutting a brake pad backing  
3                 plate out of a sheet having a plurality of protrusions formed therein.
- 1           3.     A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the step of cutting a  
2                 brake pad backing plate out of a sheet comprises cutting a brake pad backing  
3                 plate out of a sheet having a plurality of channels formed therein.
- 1           4.     A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the step of cutting a  
2                 brake pad backing plate out of a sheet comprises cutting a brake pad backing  
3                 plate out of a sheet having respective pluralities of channels and protrusions  
4                 formed therein.
- 1           5.     A method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of:  
2                 forming the discontinuities in the sheet during a sheet  
3                 manufacturing process.
- 1           6.     A method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of:  
2                 forming the discontinuities in the sheet during a sheet rolling  
3                 process.
- 1           7.     A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the step of cutting a  
2                 brake pad backing plate out of a sheet comprises stamping a brake pad  
3                 backing plate out of a sheet having a plurality of discontinuities formed  
4                 therein.

1           8.     A method of manufacturing a brake pad, comprising:  
2                 cutting a brake pad backing plate out of a sheet having a  
3 plurality of discontinuities formed therein; and  
4                 securing a friction pad to the brake pad backing plate.

1           9.     A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the step of cutting a  
2 brake pad backing plate out of a sheet comprises cutting a brake pad backing  
3 plate out of a sheet having a plurality of protrusions formed therein.

1           10.    A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the step of cutting a  
2 brake pad backing plate out of a sheet comprises cutting a brake pad backing  
3 plate out of a sheet having a plurality of channels formed therein.

1           11.    A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the step of cutting a  
2 brake pad backing plate out of a sheet comprises cutting a brake pad backing  
3 plate out of a sheet having respective pluralities of channels and protrusions  
4 formed therein.

1           12.    A method as claimed in claim 8, further comprising the step of:  
2                 forming the discontinuities in the sheet during a sheet  
3 manufacturing process.

1           13.    A method as claimed in claim 8, further comprising the step of:  
2                 forming the discontinuities in the sheet during a sheet rolling  
3 process.

1           14.    A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the step of securing a  
2 friction pad to the brake pad backing plate comprises molding the friction pad  
3 onto the brake pad backing plate such that a mechanical interconnect is  
4 created between the friction pad and the brake pad backing plate.

1           15.    A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the step of cutting a  
2 brake pad backing plate out of a sheet comprises stamping a brake pad

3 backing plate out of a sheet having a plurality of discontinuities formed  
4 therein.

1 16. A brake pad backing plate, comprising:  
2 a base member; and  
3 a plurality of protrusions extending outwardly from the base  
4 member, at least a portion of at least one of the protrusions defining a slanted  
5 parallelepiped shape.

1 17. A brake pad backing plate as claimed in claim 16, wherein at  
2 least a portion of each of the protrusions defines a slanted, parallelepiped  
3 shape.

1 18. A brake pad backing plate as claimed in claim 16, wherein less  
2 than all of the at least one protrusions defines a slanted, parallelepiped shape.

1 19. A brake pad backing plate as claimed in claim 16, wherein the  
2 protrusions are evenly spaced.

1 20. A brake pad backing plate as claimed in claim 16, wherein the  
2 slanted, parallelepiped shape slants in two directions.

1 21. A brake pad backing plate as claimed in claim 16, wherein the  
2 slanted, parallelepiped shape slants in two directions that are perpendicular to  
3 one another.

1 22. A brake pad backing plate as claimed in claim 16, wherein the  
2 base member defines a front surface and the protrusions extend outwardly  
3 from the front surface of the base member.

1 23. A brake pad backing plate as claimed in claim 16, wherein the  
2 base member front surface is substantially planar.

1           24.    A brake pad, comprising:  
2                   a brake pad backing plate including a plurality of protrusions  
3           extending outwardly from the base member, at least a portion of at least one  
4           of the protrusions defining a slanted parallelepiped shape; and  
5                   a friction pad secured to brake pad by the plurality of  
6           protrusions.

1           25.    A brake pad as claimed in claim 24, wherein at least a portion of  
2           each of the protrusions defines a slanted, parallelepiped shape.

1           26.    A brake pad as claimed in claim 24, wherein less than all of the  
2           at least one protrusion defines a slanted, parallelepiped shape.

1           27.    A brake pad as claimed in claim 24, wherein the protrusions are  
2           evenly spaced.

1           28.    A brake pad as claimed in claim 24, wherein the slanted,  
2           parallelepiped shape slants in two directions.

1           29.    A brake pad as claimed in claim 24, wherein the slanted,  
2           parallelepiped shape slants in two directions that are perpendicular to one  
3           another.

1           30.    A brake pad as claimed in claim 24, wherein the base member  
2           defines a front surface and the protrusions extend outwardly from the front  
3           surface of the base member.

1           31.    A brake pad as claimed in claim 24, wherein the base member  
2           front surface is substantially planar.